

THE NAVAJO NATION

Executive Order No. 01-2023

RESCINDING EXECUTIVE ORDERS NO. 04-2012 and NO. 04-2021 LIFTING THE REQUIREMENT OF PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL FOR OFF-RESERVATION TRAVEL

WHEREAS:

- 1. The President of the Navajo Nation serves as the Chief Executive Officer for the Navajo Nation Executive Branch with full authority to conduct, supervise, and coordinate personnel and programmatic matters. 2 N.N.C. § 1005 (A); and
- 2. In 2004, President Joe Shirley issued Executive Order No. 02-2004 directing Navajo Nation Executive Branch departments and programs to host their respective conferences, workshops, training sessions, and the like within the territorial boundaries of the Navajo Nation; and
- 3. In 2012, President Ben Shelly issued Executive Order No. 04-2012 rescinding Executive Order No. 02-2004 and requiring that the President or a Presidential designee approve all off-reservation travel requests for Division Directors and all off-reservation strategic planning sessions and group meetings/conferences; and
- 4. In 2021, President Jonathan Nez issued Executive Order No. 04-2021 ordering that Navajo Nation travel restrictions remain in place due to the spread of COVID-19 in and around the Navajo Nation and restricting all Navajo Nation employees from off-reservation travel; and
- 5. In January 2023, the Navajo Department of Health and the Office of Environmental Health and Protection Program issued Public Health Emergency Order No. 2023-001 lifting the indoor mask mandate for the general public and all businesses on the Navajo Nation because of the finding that the risk of COVID-19 transmission is low.
- 6. President Buu Nygren and Vice President Richelle Montoya have determined that it is no longer necessary to restrict all Navajo Nation employees from off-reservation travel and it is no longer necessary for the President or his designee to approve off-reservation travel or off-reservation strategic planning sessions and group meetings/conferences.

THEREFORE:

By the power vested in me pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 1005 (C) (14), I hereby rescind Executive Order No. 04-2012 and Executive Order No. 004-2021. I further clarify that off-reservation travel for Navajo Nation Executive Branch employees is no longer restricted. Furthermore, off-reservation travel and off-reservation strategic planning sessions and group meetings/conferences no longer require the approval of the President or his designee, unless otherwise required by Navajo Law.

I hereby direct the Division Directors to ensure governmental operations remain efficient and cost-effective, and that strategic planning sessions and group meetings/conferences be conducted in such a manner that does not impede services to the Navajo People.

This Executive Order shall become effective immediately.

EXECUTED this 15th day of February 2023.

Dr. Buu Nygren, President

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ATTEST:

Ethel Branch, Attorney General

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